

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

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Please replace the paragraph commencing at line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

In the LSP quantization codebook 7 as shown in Fig. 7A, the reference numeral 21 designates a first stage LSP codebook for storing a plurality of prescribed quantization coefficients that are obtained by ~~leaning~~learning a large amount of speech data; 22 designates a second stage LSP codebook for storing a plurality of prescribed quantization coefficients for fine adjustment based on random numbers; and 23 designates an MA prediction coefficient codebook for storing predetermined number of sets of the MA prediction coefficients.